



Loudoun County, Virginia

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Office of the County Administrator

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At a public hearing of the Board of Supervisors of Loudoun County, Virginia, held in the County Government Center, Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room, 1 Harrison St., S.E., Leesburg, Virginia, on Monday, December 7, 2009 at 6:30 p.m.

IN RE: INTENT TO AMEND CHAPTER 486 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF LOUDOUN COUNTY/FIRE HYDRANTS AND FIRE LANES

Mr. York moved that the Board of Supervisors suspend the rules.

Seconded by Ms. McGimsey.

Voting on the Motion: Supervisors Buckley, Burk, Burton, Delgaudio, Kurtz, McGimsey, Miller, Waters, and York – Yes; None – No.

Mr. York moved that the Board of Supervisors adopt the proposed amendments to Chapter 486 of the Codified Ordinances of Loudoun County regarding the requirements for fire hydrants and fire lanes, as contained in Attachment 1.

Seconded by Ms. McGimsey.

Voting on the Motion: Supervisors Buckley, Burk, Burton, Delgaudio, Kurtz, McGimsey, Miller, Waters, and York – Yes; None – No.

COPY TESTE:

DEPUTY CLERK FOR THE LOUDOUN  
COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

(4-Intent to Amend Chapter 486 of the Codified Ordinances of Loudoun County/Fire Hydrants and Fire Lanes)

CHAPTER 486  
Fire Hydrants and Fire Lanes

**Attachment #1**

486.01 Fire hydrants.  
486.02 Fire lanes.  
486.03 Enforcement.  
486.04 Violations; procedure.  
486.99 Penalty.

CROSS REFERENCES

Parking to block access to premises - see Code of Va. § 46.2-818  
Parking near fire hydrants - see Code of Va. §§ 46.2-1239, 46.2-1306  
Fire Marshal - see ADM. Ch. 250  
Fire prevention - see F.P. Ch. 1602

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486.01 FIRE HYDRANTS.

(a) No person shall park a motor vehicle or place any other object within fifteen feet of either side of a fire hydrant used or to be used for fire protection when such hydrant is located on private property, except that sign or fence posts, shrubbery and protective ~~bullards~~ bollards shall not be within ~~four~~ three feet of any such hydrant.

(b) Where fire hydrants are located at or close to a curb line or the edge of a road and face on a public parking lot or private road open to public use, no person shall park a motor vehicle or place any other object within fifteen feet of such hydrants. Further, no person shall park a motor vehicle or place any other object within an area perpendicular to the curb line or the edge of the roadway within fifteen feet of such a hydrant extending to the centerline of the roadway, or, if in a cul-de-sac or court, to the point where the cul-de-sac or court intersects with the street. Sign or fence posts, shrubbery and protective ~~bullards~~ bollards shall not be placed within ~~four~~ three feet of any such hydrant.

(c) (EDITOR'S NOTE: Subsection (c) was repealed by Ordinance 93-13, passed November 17, 1993.)  
(Ord. 93-13. Passed 11-17-93.)

(d) No person shall use, tamper with, damage or destroy any fire hydrant, valve or water distribution main, except that any legally constituted fire department may use such fire hydrants for fire-fighting or training purposes.

(e) The Fire Marshal, ~~his deputy~~ Assistant Fire Marshals, or any law enforcement officer of the County shall have the power to enforce the provisions of this section, to issue tickets and citations for violations of any of such provisions and to remove by towing or otherwise, or make arrangements to remove or tow, any vehicle or other object parked within fifteen feet of either side of a fire hydrant, with all costs of such towing or removal to be paid by the person violating any of such provisions.

486.02 FIRE LANE REQUIREMENTS.

(a) ~~The Fire Marshal or his designated agent shall designate as fire lanes certain roads, areas and building access and egress facilities on public and private property as defined and allowed by the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code, as adopted in Section 1410.01 of the Building and Housing Code, where it is desirable that such areas be kept clear of vehicles and any other obstructions for use by fire department and/or ambulance emergency equipment and other equipment provided for fire protection.~~ Pursuant to the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code (the "SFPC"), as adopted in Section 1602.01 of the Codified Ordinances of Loudoun County, the Fire Marshal, or his/her designated agent, shall designate certain public and private roadways as Fire Apparatus Access Roads and may require such roadways to be identified as fire lanes.

(b) The Fire Marshal, or his/her designated agent, shall require the owner or person in possession of property on which one or more ~~fire lane areas~~ Fire Apparatus Access Roads are designated to submit plans for approval of such designated Fire Apparatus Access Roads consistent with the Fire Lane Identification requirements of Chapter 4 of the Loudoun County Facilities Standards Manual, and to construct and install such Fire Lane Identification pursuant to the approved plans. ~~provide signs meeting the approval of the Fire Marshal, and the Fire Marshal shall require such person to erect such approved signs at locations which will notify any reasonably observant motorist or person attempting to park, or to otherwise obstruct such designated fire lane area, that such parking or other obstruction is prohibited in such area.~~ Any fire lane signs installed shall conform to the following design requirements, as modified by the provisions of Chapter 4 of the Loudoun County Facilities Standards Manual:

(1) Each such sign shall be of metal construction, with dimensions of at least twelve by eighteen inches.

(2) Each such sign shall show red letters on a white background, with a three-eighths inch red trim strip around the entire outer edge of the sign, the lettering to be "No Parking or Standing" in at least two-inch high letters and "Fire Lane" in at least two and one-half inch high letters and containing arrows on such signs to point to and indicate the fire lane area.

(3) Posts for such signs, where required by the Fire Marshal, shall be securely mounted.

(4) (EDITOR'S NOTE: Paragraph (b)(4) was repealed by Ordinance 93-13, passed November 17, 1993.)

(5) Each sign shall be mounted seven feet from grade level to the ~~top~~ bottom of the sign and must be within seven feet of the parking curb or curb line.

(c) No person shall park any vehicle of any classification, in any manner, in any area or portion of an area designated as a fire lane pursuant to this section, or in any way place or allow any object to obstruct an area designated as a fire lane pursuant to this section. The Fire Marshal, ~~his deputy~~ Assistant Fire Marshals or any law enforcement officer of the County, including deputies of the Sheriff's Department, shall have the power to enforce the provisions of this section, to issue tickets and citations for violations of any of such provisions and to remove or make arrangements to remove any vehicle or other object obstructing any area designated as a fire lane, with all costs of such towing or removal to be paid by the person violating any of such provisions.

(Ord. Unno. Passed 5-1-73; Ord. 93-13. Passed 11-17-93.)

486.03 ENFORCEMENT.

(a) The law enforcement official charged with the duty of enforcing Sections 486.01 and 486.02 shall attach to a vehicle parked in violation of the provisions of such sections a Notice of Violation, indicating that such vehicle has been parked in violation of one of these sections.

(b) In any prosecution charging a violation of any of the provisions of this chapter or any rule or regulation promulgated hereunder, proof that the vehicle described in the complaint, summons, Notice of Violation, citation or warrant was parked in violation of this chapter, together with proof that the defendant was, at the time of such violation, a registered owner of the vehicle, shall constitute in evidence a prima-facie presumption that such registered owner was the person who parked the vehicle at the place where, and for the time during which, such violation occurred.

(Ord. 97-01. Passed 2-19-97.)

486.04 VIOLATIONS; PROCEDURE.

(a) Prior to the issuance of a warrant or summons for a violation of any of the provisions of Section 486.01(a) or (b) or 486.02(c), such violation may be disposed of by payment to the office of the County Treasurer of the full amount of the fine provided for in Section 486.99. If payment is not received within thirty days, the fine will be increased by ten dollars (\$10.00) for each outstanding Notice of Violation. Nothing in this section shall affect any fine, forfeiture or penalty for a violation of any county ordinance after the issuance of a summons or warrant.

(b) Any person subject to liability under this chapter as a result of the issuance of a Notice of Violation may, prior to the issuance of a warrant or summons, notify the County Treasurer of his or her desire to contest the issuance of the Notice of Violation. Upon receiving such notification, the County Treasurer shall certify the alleged violation to the County General District Court to be scheduled for a hearing on a date certain, and notice of such hearing shall be given to the person contesting the violation.

(c) A warrant or summons may be issued for the prosecution of a violation of any of the provisions of Sections 486.01 and 486.02 at any time after thirty days from the issuance of the Notice of Violation.

(Ord. 97-01. Passed 2-19-97.)

486.99 PENALTY.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: See Section 428.99 for general Traffic Code penalty if no specific penalty is provided.)

Whoever violates any of the provisions of Section 486.01(a) or (b) or 486.02(c) may dispose of such violation by the payment of a fine of forty dollars (\$40.00) prior to the issuance of a summons or warrant, subject to the provisions of Section 486.04.

(Ord. 97-01. Passed 2-19-97.)